

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 GABORO 02932 150623Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 EUR-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 ACDA-12 AID-05 HA-05 PC-01 /112 W
-----044828 160918Z /15

R 141426Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3160
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GABORONE 2932

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MPOS BC
SUBJ: BORDER CLASHES CONTINUE

REF: GABORONE 2880 AND PREVIOUS

1. GOB PRESIDENT'S OFFICE RELEASED FOLLOWING STATE-
MENT SEPT 12: QUOTE:

THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT
THERE WAS AN EXCHANGE OF FIRE YESTERDAY AT KAZUNGULA
BETWEEN THE BDF AND THE RHODESIAN REBEL FORCES. THE
INCIDENT OCCURRED AFTER MEMBERS OF THE BDF HAD OB-
SERVED SOME RHODESIAN SOLDIERS ADVANCING TOWARDS
THE BOTSWANA BORDER IN AN ALERT POSITION AND WITHOUT
ANY PROVOCATION OPENING FIRE AT THE BDF. THE BDF
RETURNED THE FIRE KILLING AT LEAST FOUR RHODESIAN
SOLDIERS. THERE WERE NO CASUALTIES ON THE BOTSWANA
SITE. THIS IS YET ANOTHER UNPROVOKED ACT OF AGRESSION
AGAINST BOTSWANA BY REBEL RHODESIA AND AS USUAL
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 GABORO 02932 150623Z

THE REASONS BEHIND IT ARE UNKNOWN. NEVERTHELESS
GOVERNMENT IS DETERMINED TO USE ALL THE MEANS
AVAILABLE TO IT TO DEFEND THE SOVEREIGNTY AND
INTEGRITY OF THIS COUNTRY AS WELL AS TO ENSURE
THAT THE LIVES AND PROPERTY OF ALL BOTSWANA
NATIONALS ARE PROTECTED. END QUOTE.

2. RHODESIAN PRESS OF SEPT 13 CARRIED DENIAL
OF FATALITIES BY RHODESIAN COMBINED OPERATIONS
HEADQUARTERS.

3. RHODESIAN PRESS REPORTS THAT RHODESIAN COM-
BINED OPERATIONS HEADQUARTERS ALLEGED THAT ZAMBIAN
FORCES OPENED FIRE ON AN UNOCCUPIED RHODESIAN
POSITION SATURDAY SEPT 9. THE RHODESIAN
COMMUNIQUE CLAIMED THAT MANY OF THE SHOTS LANDED
IN BOTSWANA AND THAT THE BDF RETALIATED BY FIRING
INTO ZAMBIA.

4. I RAISED THESE REPORTS WITH EXTAFFMIN MOGWE
WHEN MEETING WITH HIM SEPT 13. HE HAD
NOTHING TO ADD TO THE GOB PRESS RELEASE, BUT DENIED
ANY KNOWLEDGE OF BDF FIRING INTO ZAMBIA.

5. COMMENT: IN THE FOUR CORNERS AREA WHERE THESE
INCIDENTS ARE ALLEGED TO HAVE TAKEN PLACE, RHODISIAN,
ZAMBIAN, BOTSWANA, AND SOUTH AFRICAN FORCES ARE IN CLOSE
PROXIMITY. IT IS POSSIBLE THERE WAS AN INADVERTENT
EXCHANGE OF FIRE BETWEEN ZAMBIAN AND BOTSWANA
FORCES, BUT WE WOULD EXPECT NEITHER THE GOB NOR THE
GOZ TO ACKNOWLEDGE IT. THESE REPORT ILLUSTRATE THE CONTINUING
HEIGHTENED TENSION ALONG THE BORDER SINCE THE INCIDENT OF THE
RHODESIAN VISCOUNT.
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 GABORO 02932 150623Z

NORLAND

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BORDER INCIDENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 sep 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978GABORO02932
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780377-0821
Format: TEL
From: GABORONE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780968/aaaacdwb.tel
Line Count: 95
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 586bb350-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 GABORONE 2880
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1437627
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BORDER CLASHES CONTINUE
TAGS: MPOL, PBOR, BC, RH
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/586bb350-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014